

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the 3 paragraphs beginning on page 7, line 22 and ending on page 8, line 4 with the following replacement paragraphs:

Thereafter, as shown in Fig. 6, a rod 40, (which can be used to hold proximal end 12 in position relative to hole 21 while pulling on suture tethers 30 as illustrated in Fig. 5), can be used to push ~~distal end proximal end~~ 12 in distal direction D such that the region of mesh 10 between ~~distal end proximal end~~ 12 and outer surface 11 will tend to expand around the proximal end of hole 21, forming a bulge 17 against outer surface 11, as shown. In this aspect of the invention, proximal end 12 may optionally be formed to be non-expandable, for example by attachment to a fixed diameter ring therearound.

The effect of mesh 10 being deformed to form respective bulges 17 and 15 at the outer surface 11 and inner surface 13 of disc 20 will be to hold mesh 10 at a fixed longitudinal position relative to hole 21 (such that it doesn't move in either a proximal or distal direction).

Thereafter, as shown in Fig. 7, ~~distal end proximal end~~ 12 may optionally be pushed longitudinally in distal direction D such that it passes through the center of the mesh such that it extends out through distal end 14. In this aspect of the invention, ~~distal end proximal end~~ 12 may be formed to be non-expandable and have a slightly larger diameter than that of

Application Serial No. 09/663,250
Attorney's Docket No. 015US1

distal end 14 such that ~~distal end proximal end~~ 12 can pass through distal end 14 and be snap-fit through the opening of distal end 14.